GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:313
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2001
PROMOTION OF JUTE INDUSTRY IN EASTERN STATES
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the jute growers of Eastern States are facing a lot of difficulties due to the sharp decline in the export of jute products; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to assist the jute growers in the matter and to promote jute industry in the Eastern States?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES(SHRI KASHIRAM RANA)

(a) No, Sir. There has been no decline in the export of jute goods in the last two years and exports have infact increased marginally from Rs. 5822.89 million in 1998-99 to Rs. 6411.84 million in 1999-2000.

(b) The government has taken several steps from time to time to assist the jute growers and to promote jute industry in the eastern states. The important steps in this direction include:
- Enactment of Jute Packaging Materials (compulsory use in packing commodities) Act,1987 providing foodgrains, sugar and urea to be packed in jute bags;
- Fixation of minimum support prices of raw jute/mesta on the basis of recommendations of C.A.C.P;
- Grant of Export Market Assistance Scheme on selected thrust items of jute products;
- Participation in various trade fairs and exhibitions by JMDC at home and abroad for popularising jute products among buyers;
- Introduction of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme w.e.f. 1.4.99 for improvement of productivity, quality and achievement of cost competitiveness of jute products;
- Promotion of jute diversification products under schemes of National Centre for Jute Diversification.